

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

**SUBJECT: AWARD OF CONTRACT TO REPLACE BROOKSIDE PARK
 SUSPENSION BRIDGE**

BACKGROUND:

The 2007-08 Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) includes \$220,000 to replace the wood suspension bridge at Brookside Park. The new prefabricated steel structure will be eight feet wide and 120 feet in length.

Prior to the flooding that occurred in May and June, the bridge was in need of replacement. However, following the floods a structural engineer reported "the overall condition of the structure is very poor. Floodwaters have contributed to the poor condition. It is our recommendation that the bridge remain closed until its replacement." Upon receiving this report, staff barricaded the entrance points and installed permanent signage notifying the public that the bridge is closed until a new structure is installed.

On August 14, 2008 the following bids were received:

Herberger Construction Company	\$220,000
Christensen Brothers Inc	\$245,000
Peterson Contractors Inc	\$249,669
Engineer's estimate	\$203,000

Original Project Budget Allocation:

\$220,000 (\$203,000 for construction and \$17,000 for engineering)

Revised Expense Estimate:

Construction	\$220,000 (low bid exceeded original estimate by 8%)
Engineering	\$ 17,000 (actual)
Contingency	<u>\$ 11,000</u>
Revised Total	\$248,000 (\$28,000 over original allocation)

Fortunately, another \$30,000 project in the 2007/08 CIP has yet to be completed. This project involves renovating the limestone walls and walkway leading to the east approach of this same bridge in Brookside Park. It was determined that the bridge should be replaced prior to this work being accomplished. However, unlike the bridge, no safety issues exist with the limestone walls and walkway. Therefore, this project could be delayed and \$28,000 of the \$30,000 could be reallocated to replacing the bridge. Funding to renovate the walls and walkway may then be requested in a future year of the CIP.

Due to the flooding that occurred in May and June, FEMA officials toured Brookside Park to assess the overall damage this park received. They informed City staff that they will consider reimbursing the City for damage to the east approach of the bridge. FEMA officials said it would take a few months to make a determination on this reimbursement allocation. Staff anticipates this reimbursement would be approximately \$3,000. Therefore, in the event Federal funds are received, slightly less funding would be used from the limestone wall and walkway renovation project.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Authorize the reallocation of \$30,000 in funding from the Brookside Park limestone wall and walkway project, and award a contract to replace the suspension bridge in Brookside Park to Herberger Construction Company in the amount of \$220,000.
2. Reject all bids and refer this project back to staff.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Due to its age and safety issues, the existing bridge in Brookside Park is closed and should not be reopened. This bridge is a popular feature within the park and is highly utilized as it connects the upper and lower sections of the park. Therefore, replacement of the bridge is recommended. The limestone walls and walkway are not a safety concern and their renovation can be delayed to a future year.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, thereby authorizing reallocation of \$30,000 in funding from the Brookside Park limestone wall and walkway project, and awarding a contract to replace the suspension bridge in Brookside Park to Herberger Construction Company in the amount of \$220,000.